



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

Raised Bill No. 6554

LCO No. 3237

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:
(ENV)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE DRUG TESTING OF ANIMALS IN
DRAWING CONTESTS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 22-126a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 The Commissioner of Agriculture, at the request and expense of the
4 authority in charge of any animal drawing contest, shall provide for
5 the administration of a program to test, immediately before or after a
6 drawing contest, for the presence of drugs in any animals participating
7 in such contest. The authority may charge the owner of the animal
8 being tested for the cost of such test. The commissioner may, within
9 available appropriations, on [his] the commissioner's own initiative
10 and at state expense test animals participating in such contest on a
11 random basis for the presence of drugs. The authority in charge of
12 such contest shall provide well-lighted facilities, removed from the
13 public, for the administration of such test. The owner or trainer of any
14 animal being so tested shall provide assistance and proper restraint for
15 confining such animal for and during the administration of such test. If
16 the animal continues to resist the test after restraint is applied and the
17 person administering the test determines a danger exists to the animal

18 or persons present at the test, an alternative test shall be administered.
 19 No prize money shall be paid until the result of the test is known. If
 20 any such test reveals the presence of a drug in any such animal, such
 21 animal shall be disqualified to participate in such contest, shall be
 22 ineligible to receive any prize money awarded in such contest and
 23 [such animal] shall be barred from participating in any such contest
 24 held in this state for a period of one year from the date of receipt by the
 25 commissioner of the results of the test. The owner or trainer or both
 26 the owner and trainer of any such animal shall be barred from entering
 27 any other animal in any such contest held in this state for a period of
 28 not less than one year nor more than two years at the commissioner's
 29 discretion from the date of receipt by the commissioner of the results
 30 of the test for the first finding of the presence of a drug and for a
 31 period of not less than two years nor more than three years at the
 32 commissioner's discretion for a second such finding. The owner of any
 33 such animal shall reimburse the authority in charge of such animal
 34 drawing contest or the state, as the case may be, for the expense of
 35 such test. The owner may appeal, in accordance with the provisions of
 36 chapter 54, any action by the commissioner authorized by this section.
 37 As used in this section: ["drug"] (1) "Drug" means any medication,
 38 stimulant, depressant, hypnotic or narcotic used in the diagnosis, cure,
 39 mitigation, treatment or prevention of disease in [man] humans or
 40 other animals; and (2) "trainer" means any person responsible for the
 41 care, training, custody or performance of an animal including, but not
 42 limited to, a person who signs an entry form for participation in a
 43 drawing contest or who has control of the animal during a drawing
 44 contest.

45 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

Statement of Purpose:

To clarify the responsibilities of owners and trainers of animals in drawing contests.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]